

U.S.S.N. 10/600,480

Filed: June 30, 2003

AMENDMENT AND RESPONSE TO RESTRICTION REQUIREMENT

Remarks

Claim 10 has been amended to recite that the biological system is selected from the group consisting of bacteria, yeast, fungi, and plants. Claim 10 has also been amended to recite that the polymer is selected from the group consisting of poly (3-hydroxypropionate), poly (3-hydroxypropionate-co-5-hydroxyvalerate), poly (3-hydroxybutyrate-co-4-hydroxyvalerate), poly (4-hydroxyvalerate), and poly (5-hydroxyvalerate). Support for these amendments and for new claims 13-19 can be found on page 5, lines 5-9.

Response to Restriction Requirement

In the Office Action, mailed July 1, 2005, the Examiner divided the claims into two groups:

Group I, claims 1-9, drawn to a polymer; and

Group II, claims 10-12, drawn to a method of making a polymer.

In addition, the Examiner required the Applicant to elect from the following species:

A) substrates from claims 1 and 10,

B) enzymes in claims 1, 2, 7, and 10, and

C) polymers in claims 2-9.

In response, Applicants elect Group II, claims 10-12, without traverse. In addition, Applicants elect 4-hydroxyvalerate, as the substrate, and polyhydroxyalkanoate synthase, as the enzyme. Claim 10, as amended, introduces a list of polymers. If required to elect one of these polymers, Applicants elect poly (4-hydroxyvalerate).

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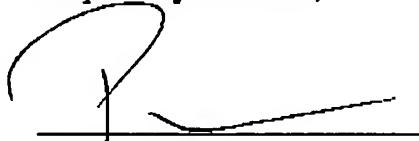
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It is understood that the election of species is for initial searching purposes only, and that other non-elected species will be examined on the allowance of a generic claim.

Favorable consideration of claim 10, as amended, claim 11, and new claims 13-19 is respectfully solicited.

Respectfully submitted,



Patrea L. Pabst
Reg. No. 31,284

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PABST PATENT GROUP LLP
400 Colony Square, Suite 1200
1201 Peachtree Street
Atlanta, Georgia 30361
(404) 879-2151
(404) 879-2160 (Facsimile)

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